

If you are eligible you will get a 30 hour code which you give to your childcare provider. Every three months you will need to reconfirm your eligibility at **childcarechoices.gov.uk**

In order to start a 30 hour place in the following term, both your child's third birthday and the application for a 30 hour code needs to take place on or before the following cut-off dates.

Code and third birthday cut-off dates	Start 30 hour place from
By 31 December	1 January (Spring term)
By 31 March	1 April (Summer term)
By 31 August	1 September (Autumn term)

Things to consider when taking a place

Although the place is funded, food, trips, late drop offs or pickups, consumables and other goods and services are not. You will need to check with your childcare provider about their charging policy.

When you sign up to your chosen childcare provider, attendance is for the whole term and the provider can't be changed until the following term, unless there are exceptional circumstances. If you need to move mid-term, please ask your childcare provider for a request to transfer funding form.

Think about how you will get to the childcare provider and if there is one nearer to your home, place of work or older sibling's school.

You can split your funded hours between more than one childcare provider.

All providers claim the funded hours from the council so you cannot claim more than the maximum entitlement.

If you do over-claim, you will be asked to pay for the extra hours. If you lose your eligibility for 30 hours (job loss or not reconfirming your eligibility every three months) then you will only receive 15 hours a week. It is important you decide where these 15 hours will be taken when you first start at a childcare provider.

Other support available:

Parents First
warrington.gov.uk/parents-first

Healthy Start
healthystart.nhs.uk

Household Support Fund
warrington.gov.uk/household-support-fund

Disability Living Allowance
gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children

Tax Free Childcare
childcarechoices.gov.uk



Early Years Funding



WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Early years funding

Children aged 2 to 4 years can access different funded places with a childcare provider.

All these places start the term after the child turns the appropriate age.

Birthday	Term start date
1 January – 31 March	From 1 April following their 2, 3 or 4 year old birthday (depending on your childcare provider)
1 April – 31 August	From 1 September following their 2, 3 or 4 year old birthday (depending on your childcare provider)
1 September – 31 December	From 1 January following their 2, 3 or 4 year old birthday (depending on your childcare provider)

Some Early Years funded places need you to complete an application and an eligibility check which will give you an eligibility code. You then share this code with your childcare provider to prove you are eligible.

2 year old funded places

Some families can get 15 hours funded a week across the school year (38 weeks) with a childcare provider. You need to apply and receive an eligibility code.

Your child will be learning and playing with other children. This could also give you time to study or look for work.

You need to meet criteria to be eligible, mainly regarding benefits or those on low income, with household income below £15,400 before tax.

There are other criteria for those:

- with a UK ancestry visa, temporary protection status, pre-settled status with no qualifying right to reside
- who are asylum seekers
- who have the right to live in the UK as the main carer of a British Citizen

You can also apply if your child:

- is looked after by (in the care of) a local authority
- has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- gets Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- has left care under an adoption, special guardianship, or child arrangements order

For more information and to apply for your code, visit:

warrington.gov.uk/twoyearfunding

3 and 4 year old funded places

All 3 and 4 year old children can receive 15 hours funded childcare place a week across the school year (38 weeks) from the term after their third birthday up until they start school reception class. No application is needed, just speak to a childcare provider about starting your place at the beginning of the term after your child's third birthday.

30 hours extended entitlement

Most working parents of 3 and 4 year olds will be eligible for an additional 15 hours of childcare per week across the school year (38 weeks).

To be eligible:

Both parents must be in paid work with each parent/lone parent earning a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national living wage, and less than £100,000 per year. Both parents are employed but one or both parents is temporarily away from the workplace. (statutory maternity, paternity or adoption leave, sick pay)

One parent is employed and the other parent:

- has substantial caring role and is on specific benefits for caring
- is disabled or incapacitated based on receipt of specific benefits

You need to complete an application to confirm your eligibility. For more information, visit **childcarechoices.gov.uk** or call 0300 123 4097.